.PRINCE GEORGE'S COUNTY HISTORIC SITES SUMMARY SHEET

ilding	Name _	Bell	efi	elds			
cation	North	side	of	Duley	Station	Rd.,	Croom

BELLEFIELDS, an early example of a Maryland Georgian country house is composed of a central block of two stories plus attic, flanked by two wings. Built circa 1720 by Dr. Patrick Sim who fled Scotland after the 1715 rebellion to settle in this county where, in 1718, he married Mary, daughter of Thomas and Barbara Dent Brooke, of nearby Brookefield Manor. Colonel Joseph Sim, their oldest son, born here, died on November 27, 1793. He was a justice of the Supreme Court, and one of the Annapolis Assembly which, June 22, 1774, denounced the British closing of Boston Harber? He represented his county June, 1775, at the Annapolis Convention which framed the Association of Freemen of Maryland. He served in the Convention of Maryland which governed the state at the beginning of the Revolution, and on the first Privy Council of the state. 1777. He was also a member of the General Assembly, 1780.

STATE:

Maryland

Form 10-300 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR . NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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7.

The 163 acre Bellefields estate is located on the north side of Dudley Station Road approximately three miles east of the intersection of Dudley Station Road and U. S. 301 which is roughly $6\frac{1}{2}$ miles south of Upper Marlboro, Maryland.

Bellefields is composed of a central block of two stories plus attic, flanked by two small wings attached on the ends, of which one flanker was originally a school room. Built of Flemish bond with random glazed headers, all of the windows have splayed lintels of gauged-brick. Raised on a brick base, there is a simple water table, and a four-brick belt course above the first story; there are brick steps before the main (south) entrance and a brick entranceway at the north. appears recent but may actually be an instance of the towered or pavilioned north side, such as on the garden (north) facade of the Paca House in Annapolis. The most conspicuous features are four tall chimney stacks which are on the exterior of the end walls, and there is one bay of windows between the two chimneys at each end. The main facade has five bays, and the wings each have three windows, and a south and north doorway respectively. The wood shingle roof is steeply pitched.

The only alteration appears to be the addition of window shutters. Perhaps shutters were put on the house at the time of erection. If so this would have been an early instance of their use in Maryland.

Plantation Houses of Maryland, Bellefields is lacking the original west wing which contained the kitchen pantry and service; thus the extant wing is recently built; also shown is the north entrance porch -- one story only in height.

This early example of a Maryland Georgian country house is symmetrical, of formal proportions but lacks ornamentation other than that formed by the brickwork (lintels, belt course, etc.). The main (south) doorway shows some evidence of change in the brickwork, but there are not indications of pilasters, dentiled cornices, etc. Due to fine condition, Bellefields represents a substantial Maryland house of about 1720.

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

Bellefields, begun between 1718 and 1735, first belonged to Patrick Sim, a Scottish immigrant. He came to America in 1715 fearing retribution for his role in the unsuccessful Scottish rebellion aimed at returning the Roman Catholic Stuarts to the English throne. He abandoned his Scottish estate "Kilcairn" and took up the original 2000 acre Sim's Delight tract. When he died Patrick Sim willed the house and land to his son, Colonel Joseph Sim (-1793).

From 1769-1793, Colonel Joseph Sim was actively and ideologically sympathetic toward independence for the colonies in America. He joined such men as Charles Carroll of Carrollton — in the protest against English tariffs, through an Anne Arundel County Association petition (1774), and the ensuing Boston Tea Party. He worked with Thomas Johnson, William Paca and Samuel Chase in their common purposes for the Convention of Maryland, the Maryland Committee of Correspondence (1774-1775), the Council of Maryland (1777); and enjoyed a close relationship with his nephew Thomas Sim Lee, twice Governor of Maryland (1779-1782; 1792-1794). In 1780 Colonel Sim had served a second term in the General Assembly while the Articles of Confederation governed the United States.

In 1779 Colonel Joseph Sim gave his grandson, Joseph Sim, a one-hundred-forty-one acre portion of "Sim's Delight."

Patrick Sim, son of Colonel Joseph Sim (-1793), also had obtained another portion of "Sim's Delight" which he subsequently sold to Benjamin Oden in 1794. Five years later Colonel Joseph Sim's grandson, Joseph Sim, relinquished his share of "Sim's Delight" to Benjamin Oden. After assembling the original tract, Oden gave it a new name -- "Bellefields."

Benjamin Oden (1762-1828) made a fortune as the administrator of the mercantile interests of Stephen West, Senior. In 1822 he married, at Bellefields, his second wife Henrietta Waring. Oden's daughter from his first marriage, Eliza Oden, was married at Bellefields on February 8, 1825 to Colonel William Duckett Bowie. William and Eliza Oden Bowie were the

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

_						
9.	MAJOR	BIBLI	OGRAPH	HICAL	REFER	ENCES

Recorders:

William Morgan, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, June 1969.

Beth Grosvenor, Field Surveyor, Maryland Historical Trust, August 1969.

Nancy Miller, Historian, Maryland Historical Trust, October 1969.

SEE CONTINUATION SHEET

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Form 10-3000 (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

(Continuation Sheet)

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(Number all entries)

Bellefields

#6. REPRESENTATION IN EXISTING SURVEYS continued

Historic American Buildings Survey

Library of Congress Washington, D. C. code: 11

#8. SIGNIFICANCE continued

parents of Governor Oden Bowie (1826-1894, Governor of Maryland from 1869-1872), a member of the Maryland Jockey Club, one of the founders of the Dirner Party Stakes run at Pimlico Race Course (1870) and of the Preakness Stakes.

Eliza Oden Bowie (Mrs. William Bowie) died in 1849. Five years later the widower, William Bowie, remarried; his second bride, Mary Oden, the daughter of Benjamin Oden, was his first wife's half sister.

Shortly after his second wedding in 1854 William Bowie gave his house "Fairview" to his son Oden Bowie. William Bowie and his second bride then moved to Bellefields which Mary Oden Bowie had inherited from her father Benjamin Oden. William Bowie spent the remainder of his life at Bellefields and turned the twelvehundred acre estate into a famous, productive, Southdown sheep and Hereford cattle farm.

The ownership of Bellefields passed, after William Bowie's death, to his three daughters. In 1891 they sold the property. From that date until the end of the Second World War, Bellefields had five owners. In 1945 John Dominic Bowling purchased Bellefields and one-hundred-sixty acres and maintains a horse farm at Bellefields. .

#9. REFERENCES continued

Bowie. Effie Gwynn. Across the Years in Prince George's County. Richmond: Garrett and Massic, 1947.

Bowling, Mrs. John D. Interview and personal records.

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Form 10-300a (July 1969)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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(Continuation Sheet)

(Number all entries)

Bellefields

#9. REFERENCES continued

Forman, Henry Chandlee. Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland. Easton, Maryland: the author, 1934.

Prince George's County Schools. "A Research Action Project Devoted to Aspects of the History of Maryland and Prince George's County." typescript. Maryland State Library, Annapolis, Maryland. 1959.

Scharf, J. Thomas. History of Maryland From the Earliest Period to the Present Day. reprint. Hatboro, Pennsylvania: Tradition Press, 1967.

Form 10-301 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

Maryland

COUNTY

Prince George's

FOR NPS USE ONLY

ENTRY NUMBER

NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES PROPERTY MAP FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with map)

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TO BE INCLUDED ON ALL MAPS

- 1. Property broundaries where required.
- 2. North arrow.
- 3. Latitude and longitude reference.

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PG:82A-26

Maryland

PROPERTY PHOTOGRAPH FORM

(Type all entries - attach to or enclose with photograph)

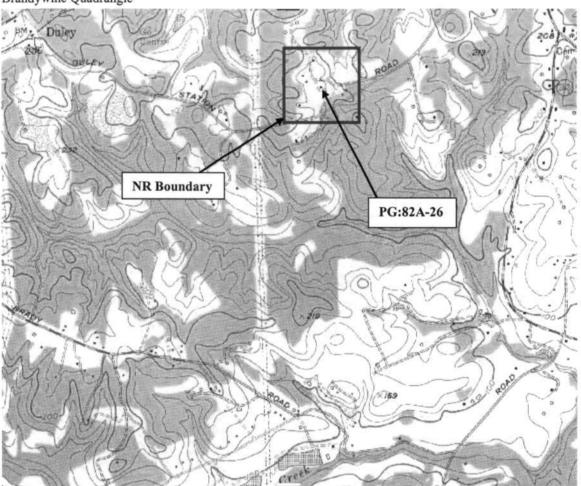
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BRANDYWINE QUADRANGLE PG:821-26 MARYLAND 7.5 MINUTE SERIES (TOPOGRAPHIC NE/4 HRANDYWINE 15' QUADRANGLE Dat. 38944 52.50 2001 Lat. (18044)52! 5". Long. 75 46 79 5" BELLEFIELDS Tat. 38944.36.9". Long. 76946, 29.59 18044 35 50 Long, 76946 49,5" BRANDYWINE QUADRANGLE USGS 7.5 minute map

PG:82A-26 Bellefields (Sims Delight, Bellfield) 13104 Duley Station Road Upper Marlboro Brandywine Quadrangle



1998 Aerial Photo



PG:82A-26 Bellefields Duley Station Road Upper Marlboro Vicinity Prince George's County, Maryland

For additional information, see also:

- Maryland Historical Trust Preservation Easement Property Documentation Survey FRR Mary 22, v. 1.
- Architectural drawings and field notes (in flat files)

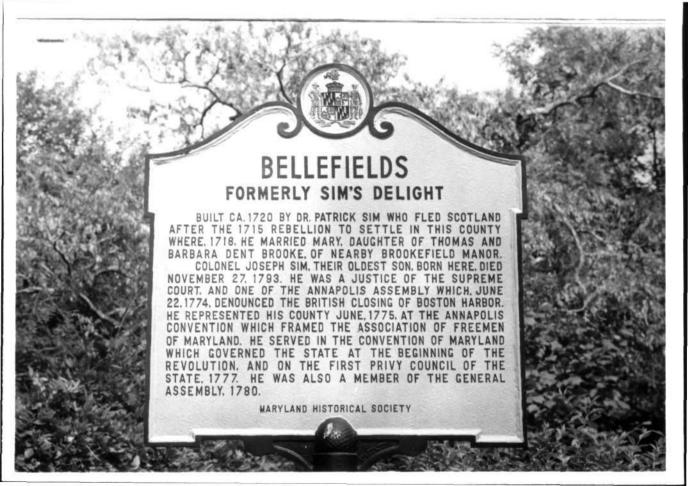


NAME BELLEFIELDS

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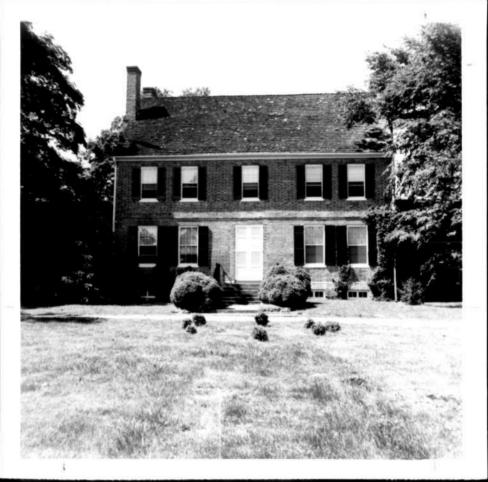
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BELLEFIELDS Before 1945 P6 79 PG-87A-76



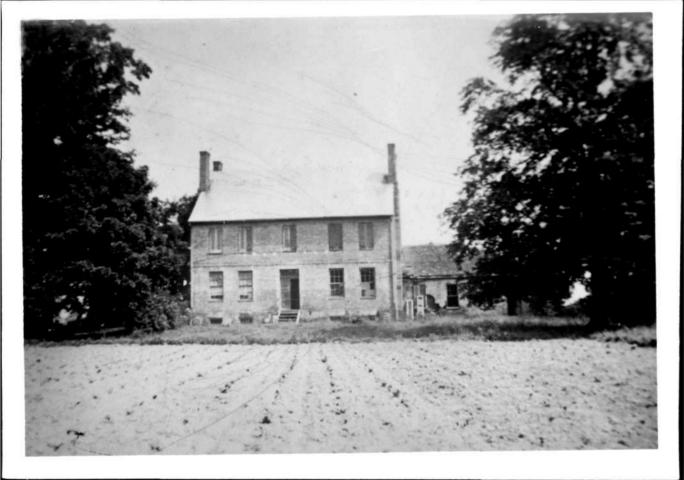
BELLE FIELDS P.G. 82A-26

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Md. Historical Trust 94 College Ave. Annapolis, Md. 21401

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William Morgan June 1969



Bellefields before 1945 P.G. 82A-26 P679



BELLE FIELDS Before 1945
PG 87A-76

N. R. FIELD SHEET Prince George's PG 824-26

Form 10-300 (Dec. 1968)

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF THE INTERIOR
NATIONAL PARK SERVICE

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NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES INVENTORY - NOMINATION FORM

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N. R. FIELD SHEET P.G. 824-26

SEE INSTRUCTIONS

CONDITION					(Check Or	ie)			
CONDITION	Excellent 🗵	Good		Fair 🗌	Deteriorated		Ruins		Unexposed
WITEGRITY		(Che	ck On	e)				(Che	ck One)
INTEGRITY	Altered		ı	Jnaltered 🖾		Mon	ved 🗇		Original Site 300

Bellefields is composed of a large central block of two stories plus attic, flanked by two small wings attached on the ends (one flanker was originally a school room). Built of Flemish bond with occasional glazed headers; all of the windows have splayed lintels of guaged brick. The house is raised on a brick base, there is a simple water table, and a four brick belt course above the first story; there are brick steps before the main entrance (south) and a brick entranceway at the rear (north; this appears recent but may actually be instance of the towered rear, such as that on the garden facade of the Paca House in Annapolis). The most conspicuous features are the four tall chimney stacks which are on the outside of the end walls, and there is one bay of windows between the two chimneys at each end. The main facade has five bays, and the wings each have three windows and a front and rear doorway. The wood shingle roof is rather steeply pitched. Only alteration appears to be the addition of window shutters

Only alteration appears to be the addition of window shutters (perhaps shutters were put on the house at time of erection, but would have been an early instance of their use in Maryland).

Pictured in Forman's <u>Early Manor Houses</u> (pp 89-90) Bellefields is lacking the west wing which contained the kitchenpantry, and service, thus this wing must be a recent rebuilding; also shown is the north entrance porch — only one story in height.

8.

SIGNIFICANCE							
PERIOD (Check One or I Pre-Columbian 15th Century	fore as	Appropriate) 16th Centur 17th Centur	. –	18th Centu		20th Century	
SPECIFIC DATE(S) (If A	pplicat	ole and Known) C	1720	post 171	3 - pa	re 1735	
AREAS OF SIGNIFICANO	E (Ch	eck One or More as	Appropr	iate)			
Abor iginal		Education		Political		Urban Planning	
Prehistoric		Engineering		Religion/Phi-		Other (Specify)	
Historic		Industry		losophy		Architecture	
Agriculture		Invention		Science			
Art		Landscape		Sculpture			
Commerce		Architecture		Social/Human-			
Communications		Literature		itarian			
Conservation		Military		Theater			
		Music		Transportation			

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE (Include Personages, Dates, Events, Etc.)

Patrick Sims came to America from Scotland in 1715 and probably built Bellefields sometime shortly after 1718 (no later than 1735 - Mrs. Bowling, records). An example of an early Georgian Maryland manor, or country house, Bellefields is symmetrical, of formal proportions, but lacks almost any ornamentation other than that formed by the brickwork (lintels, belt course, etc.). The main (south) doorway shows some evidence of change in the brickwork, but there are no indications of pilasters, dentiled cornices, etc. The wings appear to be almost hyphens for un-built additional wings making up the traditional five part house plan of the mid-Georgian period, but this is partly the result of the tallness of this early building, reflecting the earlier architecture of Maryland and Virginia before the advent of the Palladian country house, and best illustrated in the tall. exterior chimney stacks. Due to fine condition, Bellefields represents a substantial Maryland house of about 1720.

9. MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Swepson Earle, The Chesapeake Bay Country 1923

Pamphlet prepared by Mrs. Bowling on "St. Thomas" of Croome"

Henry Chandlee Forman, Early Manor and Plantation Houses of Maryland pp 89-90

Mrs	. John Bowling,	Bellefield	s, Cro	om, Md.					
10. GEOG	RAPHICAL DATA			*					
1	LATITUDE AND LONGITU				NING THE	CENTER	POINT OF A PRO		
CORNER	LATITUDE	LONGITUD	E		ATITUDE		LONGITU	TUDE	
NW NE SE SW	Degrees Minutes Seconds	Degrees Minutes S	Seconds	Degrees	Minutes	Seconds	Degrees Minutes	s Seconds "	
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News	rk			Delawa	re				
12. STATE	E LIAISON OFFICER CI	RTIFICATION		N	ATIONAL	REGIST	ER VERIFICATION	NC	
tional 89-66 in the evaluation forth	e designated State Liais Historic Preservation A 5), I hereby nominate thi National Register and c ated according to the cri by the National Park Ser of significance of this n National State	ct of 1966 (Publist property for inceptify that it has teria and proceduvice. The recommonination is:	c Law lusion been res set mended	Nationa	l Registe	r.	roperty is include		
		Manufic		Date	`:	r of The N	National Register		
Date				Date					

orm 10-445 (5/62)

Md. 1. STATE PG COUNTY

> VICINITY #79 TOWN

Duley Station Rd. near STREET NO. Duley

Sim& Duvall(?) ORIGINAL OWNER priv dwell ORIGINAL USE

PRESENT OWNER

PRESENT USE same WALL CONSTRUCTION brick NO. OF STORIES

HISTORIC AMERICAN BUILDINGS SURVEY INVENTORY

2. NAME Bellegield

DATE OR PERIOD

orig. 1720 period STYLE (1735, Forman) ARCHITECT

BUILDER

3. FOR LIBRARY OF CONGRESS USE

4. NOTABLE FEATURES, HISTORICAL SIGNIFICANCE AND DESCRIPTION

OPEN TO PUBLIC

Gutted by fire in 1720? Restored in 1840-1850. Double chimneys on each end, i one-half set in walls. small wing on east and west ends. well in rear excell.cond. owner stated building not burned, but built in 1720, abandoned in early 20th, rebuilt 1930's wings had fallen down and were replaced with brick from Wmsbrg.

Also called "SIN'S DELIGHT" (DFR)

HABS - 3 photos

5. PHYSICAL CONDITION OF STRUCTURE Endangered

Interior

6. LOCATION MAP (Plan Optional)

Coher # 943

7. PHOTOGRAPH 9. NAME, ADDRESS AND TITLE OF RECORDER

8. PUBLISHED SOURCES (Author, Title, Pages)

INTERVIEWS RECORDS PHOTOS, ETC. 1934, pg 83,89 Earle

Bowie, 248, 605,607,763,763, 766

KINN, Survey, p 52

DATE OF RECORD

